Task Force 3-505 PIR

OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM

Family Readiness Group Briefing

13 August 2003

Agenda

- Finance Brief
- Theater Update
- Rumors
- Notes from the Rear Detachment Team
- FRG Notes
- Upcoming Events
- Questions

Finance Information

- 1300 – 1LT Monica Rigaud
- 1800 – CPT Parrish

82d Soldier Support Battalion (Airborne)

OEF, OIF, and Kuwait Deployments

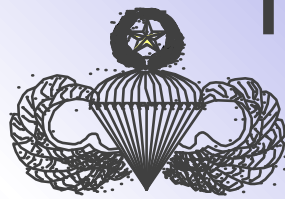
Military Pay Entitlements

Military Pay

- Basic Pay
- Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH)
- Basic Allowance for Subsistence (BAS)
- Jump Pay

Entitlements

- Hostile Fire Pay/Imminent Danger Pay (HFP/IDP)
- Combat Zone Tax Exclusion (CZTE)
- Hardship Duty Pay (HDP-L)
- Family Separation Allowance (FSA)
- Per Diem



Basic Pay

Remains current based on the soldier's rank and time in service.

BAH

Remains current based on the soldier's housing status, rank, and dependency status.

Picerne Housing switchover on 1 Aug 03

- **–All soldiers residing in quarters will have BAH started**
- **–Allotment will be started equal to BAH**
- **–First seen on Aug LES received on 1 Sep 03**

BAS

- Enlisted soldiers will be paid $242.81
- Officers will be paid $167.20 per month.
- All deployed soldiers, regardless of their prior BAS status at Fort Bragg, will receive this entitlement during the deployment.

Jump Pay

- Will continue during the deployment if the soldier deploys in a current jump status for pay
- Waiver approved for service in a combat zone in Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan
- Important to deploy in a current jump pay status to prevent recoupment of jump pay (e.g., do not deploy in a pay hurt/loss status).

Hostile Fire/
Imminent Danger Pay

- Paid monthly at a rate of $225.00 per month.
- Serving even 1 day out of a month in a designated HFP/IDP area entitles you to the entire month's $225.
- OIF, OEF, and Kuwait are designated such areas.

Combat Zone Tax Exclusion

- All enlisted soldiers and warrant officers are exempt from federal income tax for the months deployed in a Combat Zone.
- Commissioned officers are exempt from federal income tax on amounts up to $5,957.70 per month.
- State taxes, Social Security, and Medicare taxes are still deducted as normal.
- OIF, OEF, and Kuwait are designated

Hardship Duty Pay-Location

- Soldier on temporary duty must be on duty in the area for 30 consecutive days and on the 31st day are entitled retroactive to the first day the soldier reports to duty in the location.
- HDP-L rate is $100.00 for Iraq and Afghanistan
- HDP-L rate is $100.00 for Kuwait

Family Separation Allowance

- $250.00 per month
- Paid to all soldiers married to soldiers or soldiers with dependents.
- To qualify for FSA soldiers must be deployed for more than 30 days. The entitlement is retroactive back to the first day and stops the day prior to returning back to Fort Bragg.

Per Diem

- A travel entitlement of $3.50 per day will be paid to all soldiers while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom or Enduring Freedom.
- Soldier's will receive this payment when they file their travel claim upon redeployment.
- Payment will be received in the trooper's direct deposit account--will NOT be seen on LES.

FINANCE SUPPORT
In Theater

- Each brigade will deploy with an assigned FAST Team for personnel and financial support
- Will have the ability to make input to soldier's pay accounts while deployed, but recommend handling during SRP!
- Limited connectivity affects ability to research pay problems
- In contact with the Rear Det Div Finance Office

FINANCE SUPPORT
In Theater

- **Soldiers can obtain $100 casual pay/month.**

- **Soldiers will be able to cash checks up to $200 per month.**

- **To prevent bounced checks:**
  - **Recommend agreed upon monthly amount**
  - **Recommend separate accounts during the deployment**
  - **Ask bank about “overdraft protection”**

- **Finance will not cash 2 party checks, so the soldier should take a 6 month supply of checks, travelers checks, or money orders.**

- **There are no ATMs in the area.**

LES Example

Entitlements

BP
3,138.60

BAH
825.00

BAS
242.81

FSA
250.00

HFP/IDP
225.00

HDP-L

Deductions

FICA-Soc
188.16

FICA-Med
44.00

SGLI
20.00

AFRH
50

Total
252.66

Allotments

CFC
1.00

Allot FSGLI
1.30

Tricare Dental
19.08

SEC Trooper's Total
21.38

***October LES shown with deployment entitlements!**

Pay	
October 2003	4,507.37
July 2003	3,753.68

Other Finance Issues

- **Taxes:** The tax center will be open next year
  BLDG # AT-3730 on Butner Road
  0900-2100 M-F
  0900-1700 Sat
  396-1040

- **MyPay:**
  View/print LES online
  View/print W-2
  Change direct deposit account
  ePin for MyPay https://myPay.dfas.mil/
  Sign up for TSP during open season (05/06 & 11/12) (www.tsp.gov)

Savings Deposit Program

- **Deployed soldiers are authorized to deposit up to $10,000 in un-allotted pay and allowances once in the theater of operations.**
- **Maximum amount per month is what you take home that month. Max amount for the entire deployment is $10,000.00.**
- **All deposits will earn interest of 10% annually compounded 2.5% quarterly on a monthly average of the qtr.**
- **Deposits will continue to earn interest for up to 90 days following redeployment.**
- **Deposits can be made by either allotment or**

SLA

- Soldiers who are deployed for at least 120 continuous days in a HFP/IDP area may be granted SLA for up to 90 days of leave at the end of an Fiscal Year (FY).
- LTC commanders or higher are the approval authority
- Commanders will not approve SLA until after the FY, when it becomes known how much leave a soldier will lose.

AFTER THE DEPLOYMENT

- Some entitlements are paid when the soldier files a travel settlement voucher:
  - -Per Diem
  - -Travel Pay

- After redeployment, finance will stop deployment entitlements
  - -CZTE
  - -HFP/IDP
  - -HDP-L
  - -FSA

Rear Detachment
Finance Support

Leave and Earning Statement (LES)

- LESs will be provided to deployed soldiers.

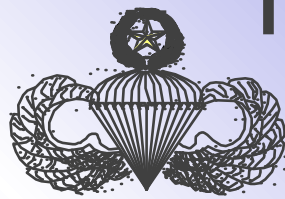
- A duplicate LES will be provided to the Rear Detachment Commander for distribution to family member having a valid military ID and a General or Special Power of Attorney.

Rear Detachment
Finance Support

Use the unit PAC to receive finance support, such as answers to pay inquiries,
LES, W2, and other problems. If you must obtain the LES or W2 from finance, you need a <u>general power of attorney</u>.

If you need to make changes to your spouse's pay - you must have a

QUESTIONS?



Theater Update

- 100% troops safely in Iraqi Theater of Operations (Baghdad)
- Moving to Camp All-American
- VERY HOT!!! (132° this week)
  - Send Gatorade and other powdered drink mixes
- Phone/Email communication extremely limited
  - Do not worry; they will call as soon as they can

From 3P6

- 3 Panther families: for those of you hearing this at an FRG meeting, thanks for attending and staying in touch with the rear detachment and others. For those reading by e-mail, also thanks for getting our rosters up to date. The weather remains a significant obstacle - but last night was the first night that was cool enough to sleep without AC. A sand storm went through yesterday and some cooler air came in behind it. It was probably only 115 - 120 degrees today instead of 125-130 degrees. We are doing our best to get some quality of life stuff in place. We are now almost all located forward at our initial operating base. B Co and the rest of HHC will arrive tomorrow. All here are working extremely hard to protect ourselves and to improve conditions. We are contracting for power, AC etc. We are serving hot "Army" food and hope to have showers in place in the next week or so. When we all smell bad it all kind of blends in. We minimize our work activities during the heat of the day and really get after it once the evening rolls around.

From 3P6

- Yesterday, some of the key leaders visited with the paratroopers from 2d Brigade, 82d in Baghdad. The purpose of the trip was to hear what they have been doing over here for the last 6 months and to gain there lessons learned from experience - all so that we can better take care of our own 3 Panther team. It was a great experience and we are preparing notes for ourselves and the rest of the 3d Bde task force. We are all still acclimating to the environment and will begin our operations in earnest over the next 2 - 3 weeks. We are all ready and know that our training and shared experiences will see us through. Morale is very high. Thanks again for working closely with the rear detachment and remaining in touch with what our great team is doing. I think the 30 August picnic is a terrific idea and hope that you all support it with your presence.

A U.S. soldier directs an Iraq worker at right as he puts up barbed wire, during the setting up of a new U.S. army base on the outskirts of Baghdad, Iraq, Wednesday Aug.13, 2003. (AP Photo/Manish Swarup)

Rumors

- Mailing Address

  Name, Rank

  3BCT

  Plt, Company, 3-505 PIR, 82nd Abn Div

  APO AE 09384

- 3-505 was not in a firefight as soon as they arrived
- 1-year deployment – NOT for TF Panther

Rear Detachment Team Notes

- Continue to inform your Rear Detachment NCO or FRG Leader if you are leaving town
- Please call your Rear Detachment NCO before calling me or SFC Bayles
  - They have more answers than I do!

Casualty/Fatality Notification

Clarity About Terms

- Casualty = an injury of any type (serious or non-serious)
- Fatality = soldier pronounced dead and confirmed by Battalion Commander

Casualty

- I will confirm ALL information with LTC Johnson
- You will receive a phone call from me
- Unless it is a negligible injury, you will be visited by myself, your Rear Detachment NCO, and your FRG Representative
- Every effort will be made to put you in touch with your spouse

Fatality

- <u>I will confirm ALL information with LTC Johnson</u>
  - Do not accept any information except from me
- You WILL NOT receive a phone call
- You will be visited in person by myself, your Rear Detachment NCO, your FRG Representative, and the Division Chaplain

  *** we need to know where you are ***

- A Casualty Assistance Officer will assist you during the following days

REDLINE Message

- Def: a 3-505 PIR official statement (phone/email) that is disseminated to the battalion families to confirm facts and eliminate rumors
- A REDLINE Message will go out if a 3-505 soldier is injured or killed in theater ONLY AFTER the Next of Kin have been notified
- Remember: you will be notified if your spouse is involved
- No notice will be given for events in other units
  - Please do not call the battalion every time an injured soldier makes the news

REDLINE Example

- “A soldier from Task Force 3-505 was injured in Iraq last night. He broke his arm when the vehicle he was riding in rolled into a ditch. He is in stable condition and will return to duty. The Next of Kin have been already been notified. There were no other casualties or fatalities.”

FRG Notes

- Please give your email updates to your FRG Rep
- Volunteers are needed to watch children during the FRG Meetings
- The Fort Bragg Babysitter List is available after the meeting
  - Contact Amy White, B Co
- 325 AIR Prayer Night for deployed soldiers
  - Tuesdays, 1900-2000
  - Division Chapel, Bastogne and Ardennes, behind Tucker Gym

Upcoming Events

- Wednesday, 20 Aug - FRG Meeting (Legal Office)
  - Watch for changes
- Please contribute your IDEAS!
  - FireAntz Hockey
  - The Zoo
    - » Ice skating at Cleland Ice Rink
  - Water park
  - Discovery Zone
  - What else???????????
- And……

3-505 PICNIC

30 August

Pope AFB Park

1100hrs

Hamburgers/Hot Dogs, Chips, Drinks, Dessert

Don't forget to bring your kids!!!

Questions?

Thank you for helping to build the
3 Panther Team